

**REGULAR MEETING
MIDTOWN REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Tuesday, November 8, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Midtown Redevelopment Board was held Tuesday, November 8, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers, Daytona Beach City Hall, 301 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida. The following people were present:

Board Members Present

Ms. Kenya Ford, Chair
Mr. Tony Barhoo
Mr. Danny Fuqua
Mr. Steven Miller
Mr. Oliver Ross

Board Members Absent

Mr. Martin Tooley

Staff Members Present

Mr. Reed Berger, Redevelopment Director
Mr. Charles Bryant, Redevelopment Project Manager
✱ Mr. Ben Gross, Deputy City Attorney
Ms. Becky Groom, Board Secretary

1. Call to Order

Ms. Ford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called and attendance was noted as stated above.

3. Invocation

Mr. Miller gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mr. Barhoo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Approval of Minutes for Special Meeting of September 19, 2016

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Fuqua, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 19, 2016, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **Staff Report**

Police Department

Capt. B. Williams presented the Compstat report which was included as part of the packet. Capt. Williams stated burglaries were up 18%; larcenies were up 7%; and overall there was an increase in part 1 crimes by 7%. Capt. Williams stated in Midtown, there had been only two auto thefts during this reporting period, 7 burglaries, and one car break-in. Capt. Williams reported that there were no issues during Biketoberfest. Capt. Williams stated there were 30 burglaries that took place while Hurricane Matthew was making its impact on the city and the police officers were unable to be on the streets. Capt. Williams stated the Turkey Rod Run would be in town over the Thanksgiving weekend; and the new Tanger Outlet Mall was scheduled to open soon and staff was expecting large crowds for the grand opening and Black Friday. Capt. Williams stated there had been a decrease in juvenile crimes.

Mr. Barhoo asked if special efforts would be made to deter crime during the holidays.

Capt. Williams stated residents were encouraged to keep valuables locked and out of view; he also stated several officers would be in the shopping areas to help deter crime.

Mr. Barhoo stated it had been reported to him that there was a group coming into the area from Jacksonville burglarizing properties.

Capt. Williams stated that was true and the juveniles were in the LPGA area. Capt. Williams stated only one of the juveniles had been apprehended.

Mr. Barhoo stated a member of his church told him the police officers showed up in his neighborhood and passed out presents.

Capt. Williams stated the Police Department is attempting to give back to the community.

Mr. Fuqua expressed concern about the loss of power and traffic lights during Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Fuqua asked if the National Guard was activated since there was major chaos at intersections.

Capt. Williams stated to his knowledge the National Guard was not activated. He stated that would have been an action taken by the Governor, not the City.

Capt. Williams stated that was why the Police Department encouraged people to stay at home during storms so there was not chaos on the streets.

Mr. Fuqua expressed concern about the area near the former Police Station and 955 Orange Avenue where a number of people seemed to be gathering.

Ms. Ford asked if the Police Department was going back to community policing.

Capt. Williams stated the Department was try to connect with the community through community policing.

Ms. Ford asked that officers check for speeders on Sunday mornings along Mary McLeod Bethune.

Code Enforcement

Jerome McCoy, Code Inspector, presented the Code Enforcement Report which was included as part of the packet. Mr. McCoy stated of the 77 cases listed in the report, 60 are for lot clearance.

Mr. Fuqua asked about the property at 955 Orange Avenue. He stated the City owned the property and the grass grows and was not maintained. Mr. Fuqua stated there was also a group of homeless individuals living on the property. Mr. Fuqua stated the property was across from his business.

Mr. McCoy stated Mr. Sikes was working on the situation at 955 Orange Avenue.

Mr. Berger stated Mr. Bryant would address Mr. Fuqua's concerns with Public Works.

7. Redevelopment Project Updates

Mr. Bryant presented the report which was included as part of the packet. Mr. Bryant noted four prominent individuals from the community who had passed away: Dr. James Huger; Carrol Williams; William Matt Davis Hudson; and Doc Graham.

Mr. Bryant stated the Light Up Midtown Health Fair would be held in Daisy Stocking Park on December 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He stated the Senior Prom would be held on December 18 and he already had 40 reservations for the event, which would be held at the Midtown Cultural Center. Mr. Bryant noted that Singleton Cleaners had donated tuxedos for the men who may need them for the Senior Prom.

Mr. Bryant asked that the Board keep those who had damages as a result of Hurricane Matthew in their thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Bryant wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

8. Public Comments

Anne Ruby, 137 Park Avenue, asked if the Code Enforcement cases were a result of Code Officers going out and finding the violations or if they were complaint driven.

Mr. McCoy stated it was a combination but the majority were complaint driven.

Ms. Ruby asked if the current report was different from previous months.

Mr. Bryant stated the cases were different during different times of the year. He stated if we get a lot of rain, there were more complaints about high grass.

Ms. Ruby asked who paid for the cost of cutting the lots.

Mr. Bryant stated the city paid for the lot mowing and then a lien was placed against the property for the cost.

9. **Board Comments**

Mr. Ross stated he would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Barhoo asked if there was an update on the Orange Avenue project.

Ms. Ford stated there needed to be communication with the residents regarding the Orange Avenue project.

Mr. Berger stated he had not seen anything in writing regarding the Orange Avenue project but believed it would be next year before the project was completed.

Ms. Ford asked that an update be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Ross stated the lighting on Orange Avenue and Keech was not working. He stated it was dark there and it was a safety hazard at night.

Mr. Bryant stated he would contact Public Works regarding the lighting.

Mr. Fuqua asked if someone from Public Works could attend the next meeting to bring the Board up to date on the Orange Avenue project.

Mr. Berger stated he would check with Public Works on that possibility.

Mr. Miller expressed concern that the City only permitted a two-week waiver for free permits for individuals who had damage from Hurricane Matthew. He stated many times estimates cannot be prepared within a two-week period.

Mr. Berger stated he would check with the Permitting Division regarding the time frame for receiving free permits and provide that information to the Board.

Mr. Miller expressed concern about the slow debris removal. He stated it was an eyesore.

Mr. Berger stated the goal is to get the brush piles collected and to not mix materials.

Ms. Ford stated the people that live here all year need to be taken care of.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.


Kenya Ford, Chair


Becky Groom, Board Secretary